

Chehalis Community Renaissance Team (CCRT)

January 11, 2019

Meeting Notes

Andy Skinner called the meeting to order at 8:37 A.M. with the following members present: Jill Anderson, Marcy Anholt, Shari Ayers, Katie Blurton, Susan DeLaire, Bill Deutscher, Chip Duncan, Trevor Elliott, Michaelyn Erickson, Tiffany Etherton, Tim Filer, Michele Gallagher, Christine Hoffman, Jason Mattson, Larry McGee, Mitch Moberg, Randy Mueller, Nicole Sampson, Lindsey Senter, Andy Skinner, Annalee Tobey, Hunter Weeks, Ed Wegele, Jacki Winters, and Shane Wood.

1. Welcome and Introductions of Guests

2. Partner Updates & News:

- a. **McFiler's:** Tim Filer explained that he has recently purchased and renovated the Rumors Building and opened a new restaurant, McFiler's. He explained that McFiler's restaurant was a couple of months away from a grand opening, but has many events planned since the soft opening January 1st. Tim hopes to create a family friendly, yet classy atmosphere for the restaurant.
- b. **Chehalis-Centralia Railroad and Museum:** Bill Deutscher explained that the Chehalis-Centralia Railroad and Museum had undergone many changes in 2018, and that he was elected president at the last board meeting. He informed the group that dinner trains will take place weekly, with murder mystery dinner trains taking place once a month during the season.
- c. **The Chehalis Theater:** Jacki Winters, new manager at the Chehalis Theater, informed the group that the theater will be showing older movies weekly, and pizza, appetizers, and other such snacks are available during the movies. She explained that the theater planned to have events such as sports game viewings, concerts, comedy shows, charity events, birthday parties, etc. If you have any ideas for the Chehalis Theater, or wish to book the venue, please contact Jackie at chehalistheater@gmail.com.
- d. **Lewis County Trails:** Marcy Anholt informed the group that the Willapa Hills Trail has been completely paved in Lewis County. She explained that plans are in development for a pedestrian bridge over Highway 6.
- e. **Executive Director's Report:** Annalee Tobey informed the group that she would be speaking at the heritage caucus regarding the main street program and the success the Chehalis Community Renaissance Team has had. She will also attend the quarterly Main Street meeting in Olympia with Nicole Sampson. Nicole and Annalee will teach a session on social meeting. The Centralia Downtown Association has hired a new Executive Director, Teri Zambon, and Annalee is looking forward to working with her.

3. Committee Reports:

- a. **Promotion:** Lindsey Senter explained that the Lewis County Visitor's Guide was nearing completion. The website for Experience Chehalis has been launched; Lindsey encouraged the group to view the website at: www.experiencechehalis.com.
- b. **Economic Restructuring:** Trevor Elliott informed the group that Market Street Pub had applied for façade and micro grants, both of which had been approved. He expressed his

excitement for the murals which had been added. More murals in the downtown area were briefly discussed.

- c. **Design:** Michele Gallagher informed the group that five more garbage can lids are being painted and historical banners for Louisiana Avenue have been purchased.
 - d. **Organization:** Larry McGee expressed his gratitude for all of the B&O Tax donators. Randy Mueller expressed the Board's desire to showcase and thank the businesses that donate to the B&O Tax. Andy Skinner explained that the Board will be looking to revisit the CCRT's mission and vision statements soon.
- 4. Other Updates/Announcements/Good of the Order**
- a. Bill Deutscher told the group that the steam train was debating creating a mural at their location and asked for suggestions. He also informed the group that 'Sweetheart Dinner Trains' would take place the weekend before and the weekend after Valentine's Day.
 - b. The Wedding Show will be held at City Farm in downtown Chehalis on February 16th from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. For more information please visit: www.chehalisweddingshow.com.
 - c. Randy Mueller informed the group that a feasibility study will be conducted soon regarding the R.E. Bennett and Cascade schools; three prospective consultants will be interviewed before the end of January.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 A.M. by Andy Skinner.

Next meeting is Friday, February 8th at 8:30 A.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kiley Franz, City Manager's Administrative Assistant.